

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A subscriber testing system comprising:

a switch accommodating a subscriber and having a maintenance/operation terminal; and

5 a communication node connected at a far distance to said switch via a logical link in which a communication protocol is defined, having a function of extending a geographical accommodation area of the subscriber that is managed by said switch, and including a testing device  
10 for executing a test for a subscriber's line and subscriber circuit that correspond to the subscriber accommodated therein,

wherein a V5 interface protocol is used as the communication protocol,

15 said switch includes a processing unit for transmitting to said communication node a piece of test specifying information, inputted from said maintenance/operation terminal, for indicating a subscriber test for the subscriber's line and subscriber  
20 circuit that correspond to the accommodated subscriber by use of specifying information of a message type based on the V5 interface protocol, and

said communication node includes a processing unit for making said testing device execute the subscriber  
25 test on the basis of the test specifying information

received via said logical link from said switch, and sending test result information for informing of a result of the test back to said switch by use of specifying information of a message type based on the V5 interface 5 protocol.

2. A subscriber testing system according to claim 1, wherein any one of a port control protocol and a PSTN signal protocol of the V5 interface protocol is used. 10

3. A subscriber testing system according to claim 2, wherein when the accommodated subscriber is an analog subscriber, the PSTN signal protocol is used.

15 4. A subscriber testing system according to claim 2, wherein when the accommodated subscriber is a digital subscriber, the port control protocol is used.

5. A subscriber testing system according to claim 20 1, 3 or 4, wherein a field of an information element subsequent to a field of a message type in the V5 interface protocol is used for specifying a test type of the subscriber test.